Responses to Public Comments on DTSC's Pilot Project Proposal February 4, 2005

Comment 1

People for Children's Health & Environmental Justice DTSC Pilot Project

Response:

The comment does not specify a particular project within the Midway Village area. No parameters or goals were outlined. The comment offers a critique of DTSC's work at Midway Village where we understand all cleanup work is complete and no additional cleanup work is contemplated. The issues raised in this comment should be addressed outside the pilot project process.

Comment 2

San Francisco Power, Steven Moss DTSC Pilot Project

The comment addresses a pilot project that is outside DTSC's regulatory authority. The comment suggests a study to "determine whether low income communities could effectively identify and implement dispersed measures to reduce polluting air emissions and or/reduce water consumption." The comment refers specifically to use of energy technologies and public education efforts to reduce use of energy during "peak" hours. These are important considerations and may be considered in the future by Cal/EPA's BDOs, or other state agencies.

Comments received on DTSC's pilot project during the Community Workshops:

Oakland

- DTSC should work with existing groups. No need to create new groups We agree that DTSC should tap into the knowledge and structure of existing groups. Efforts will be taken to do this.
- Come with education, evaluation, effectiveness, enforcement Noted.
- Everyone should have a seat at the table We agree that all who wish to be involved should be involved.
- Ethical conversations need to take place Noted.
- The pilot projects need to be community driven We agree.

- Encourage Cal/EPA to look at the particular communities who have already identified projects. They have been out on the front lines
 This has been done.
- Can the funds be used for parks?
 There is no funding available for the pilot projects. All work will be paid with existing funds.
- Make sure the local government is seating at the table. We agree.
- How much power will the local government have in the decision making process? Will this
 project pilot have local decision makers at the table?
 All agencies will retain their responsibilities to make decisions. The "Forum" pilot project
 proposed by DTSC envisions that the community will play a strong role in identifying issues
 and potential solutions to environmental issues. Local government must participate in this
 process if it is to be successful.

Sacramento

- There are 7,600 tons of mercury moving through the Sierra Nevada from the mines.
- Many mines are not documented. We need to talk to the tribes about the mercury coming down off the mountains (into the bay.)
 This comment is more appropriately addressed by the Regional Board Pilot Project proposals.